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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SECURITY INFORMATION
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

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SUBJECT Relsobalkan Rolling Mill in Dnepropetrovsk

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INFO.NO. OF ENCLS. 1
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
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25X1X

REFERENCE COPY

CIRCULATE

1. Location

Between the railroad line to KIEV and the Dnepr River, about two miles west of the Main Railroad Station of DNEPROPETROVSK (34°59'E/48°27'N), Ukrainian SSR. The mill site bordered on the Molotov Plant to the west.

2. Plant Installations

The plant, which was under construction, was called "Relsobalkan" plant by the Soviets. The meaning of this designation was unknown to source. It covers a site of 1.8x1.2 miles. Soviet workers said that it was to be built in three stages. Work on stage one had started and the following installations were under construction:

a. An open-hearth plant with three furnaces. The foundation walls of this plant were 9 feet thick, and the insulating layer 2 feet thick. The plant, not considering the furnaces, was 90x45x20 feet. The plant bordered on three roll trains, 600 feet long each, which were still under construction.

b. Two workshops, 450 and 240 feet long, were north of the open-hearth plant. No details available.

c. A generator plant was nearing completion in July 1949.

3. Work Force

About 1,000 PWs working in three shifts. Source could not estimate the number of civilian workers.

4. Production

According to a Soviet foreman, the production of rails was scheduled to start in October 1948. (For location and installations, see Annex).

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25X1A

 Comment:

a. The Relsobalkan Plant is entered on a sketch attached to a previous report on the Molotov Plant as being in the immediate neighborhood of this factory but farther to the southeast.

b. The Mannesmann Tube Plant was shown for the first time on the annex to this report. Other sources had stated that a cement plant is located there.

c. According to an aerial photograph of 20 November 1943, it seems possible that the Relsobalkan Plant was erected immediately east of the Molotov Plant on the assumption that the Molotov Plant is identical to the former Lenin Plant. The aerial photograph shows in this area (as far as a plant located immediately west of the Dnepr River bridge) several streets with small houses, but no factory as indicated on the military-geographical town plan of 1941. It is possible that the Molotov Plant represents only the western section of the former Lenin Plant, while the Relsobalkan Plant is being built in the eastern section of its site. This assumption is, however, not supported by the sketch attached to a previous report and by the fact that the PWs assigned to the construction of the Relsobalkan Plant came from PW Camp No. 7315/4 while those working near the Molotov Plant were detached from Camp No. 7315/5. It is believed that the Relsobalkan Plant is an entirely new plant which is being constructed on a site not included in the area of the former Lenin Plant.

d. These points and the actual layout of the plant require further information.

1 Annex: Relsobalkan Rolling Mill in DNEPROPETROVSK

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Relsobalka Rolling Mill in Dnepropetrovsk

Legend:

- A Relsobalka rolling mill, the different construction stages
- a Open-hearth plant
- b Three workshops of undetermined purpose
- c Generator plant nearing completion
- B Molotov Plant
- C Mannesmann Tube Plant
- D Camp No. 7315/4

not to scale

RR station DNEPROPETROVSK

